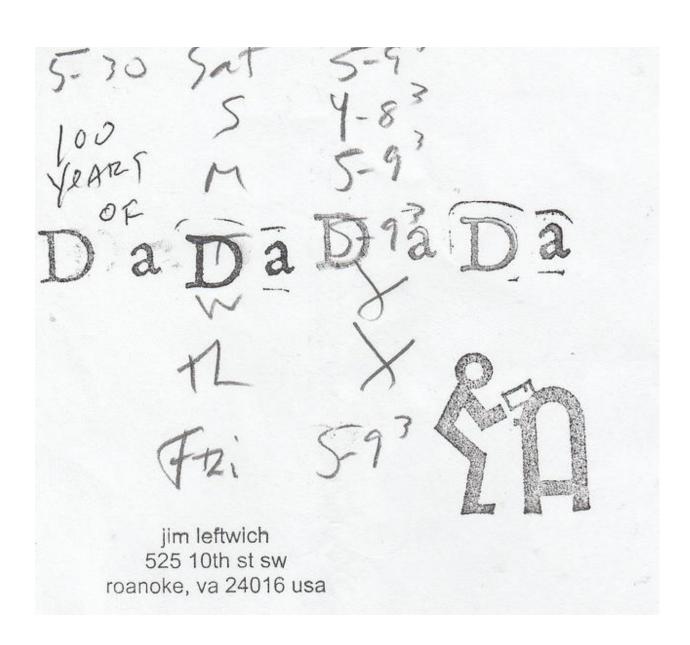
Six Months Aint No Sentence 2016 Jim Leftwich

Book 180

07.02.2016



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Patricia Cox Miller from In Praise of Nonsense

Marcus, and his fellow magicians as well, was under spell to the bewitchment of language itself, which had the power to evoke the very heart of being—but it had that power only when broken apart. Shattered in this way, the alphabet was "the body of truth", "the figure of the element, the character of the letter", and it was emblazoned on the body of the human being as well as in the cosmic spheres. Indeed, Marcus describes the human being, who is the element that the alphabet figures, as "the mouth" of the silent God, and the song the human sings echoes the elemental sounding of the heavens, each one of which pronounces its own vowel. Marcus's illustration of the sound of this song, which brings letter, element, God, and human being together in one long wail, is the sorrowing cry of a newborn baby. Composed only of vowels, the baby's cry is a hymn of praise, sounding the elemental glory of the heavens and their linguistic creator. 93 A figure for all attempts to express in language what is ultimately meaningful, Marcus's baby speaks, sorrowing and rejoicing at once.

Henry Munn
The Mushrooms of Language

The Mazatecs say that the mushrooms speak. Now the investigators (10) from without should have listened better to the Indian wise men who had experience of what they, white ones of reason, had not. If the mushrooms are hallucinogenic, why do the Indians associate them with communication, with truth and the enunciation of meaning? An hallucination is a false perception, either visual or audible, that does not have any relation at all to reality, a fantastical illusion or delusion: what appears, but has no existence except in the mind. The vivid dreams of the psychedelic experience suggested hallucinations: such imaginations do occur in these visionary conditions, but they are marginal, not essential phenomena of a general liberation of the spontaneous, ecstatic, creative activity of conscious existence. Hallucinations predominated in the experiences of the investigators because they were passive experimenters of the transformative effect of the mushrooms. The Indian shamans are not contemplative, they are workers who actively express themselves by speaking, creators engaged in an endeavor of ontological, existential disclosure. For them, the shamanistic condition provoked by the mushrooms is intuitionary, not hallucinatory. What one envisions has an ethical relation to reality, is indeed often the path to be followed. To see is to realize, to understand. But even more important than visions for the Mazatec shaman are words as real as the realities of the real they utter. It is as if the mushrooms revealed a primordial activity of signification, for once the shaman has eaten them, he begins to speak and continues to speak throughout the shamanistic session of ecstatic language. The phenomenon most distinctive of the mushrooms' effect is the inspired capacity to speak. Those who eat them are men of language, illuminated with the spirit, who call themselves the ones who speak, those who say. The shaman, chanting in a melodic singsong, saying says at the end of each phrase of saying, is in communication with the origins of creation, the sources of the voice, and the fountains of the word, related to reality from the heart of his existential ecstasy by the active mediation of language: the articulation of meaning and experience. To call such transcendental experiences of light, vision, and speech hallucinatory is to deny that they are revelatory of reality. In the ancient codices, the colored books, the figures sit, hieroglyphs of words, holding the mushrooms of language in pairs in their hands: signs of signification.

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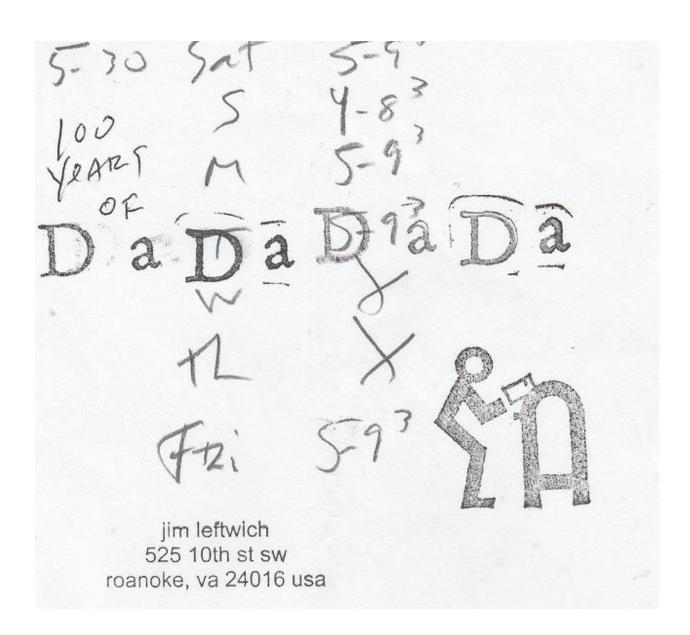
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If we touch the surface of a table with our five fingertips of one hand, there will be then on the surface of the table only five circles, and on _this surface_ it is impossible to have any idea either of the hand or of the man to whom the hand belongs. [Ouspensky from Leadbetter]

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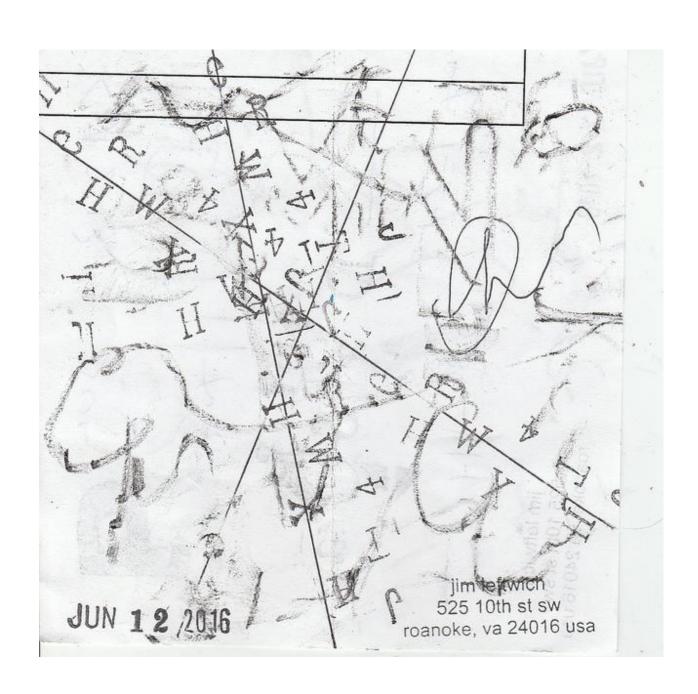
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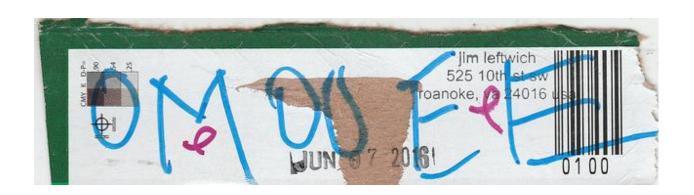
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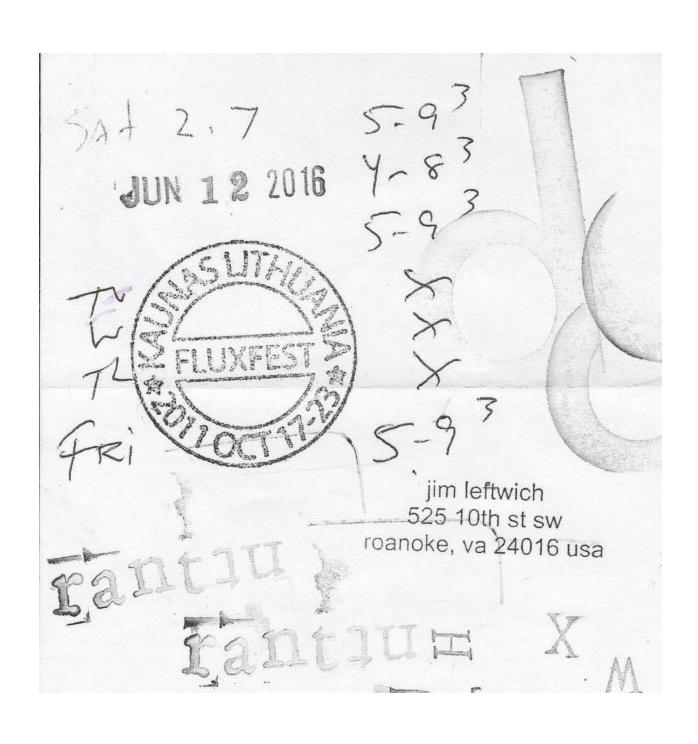


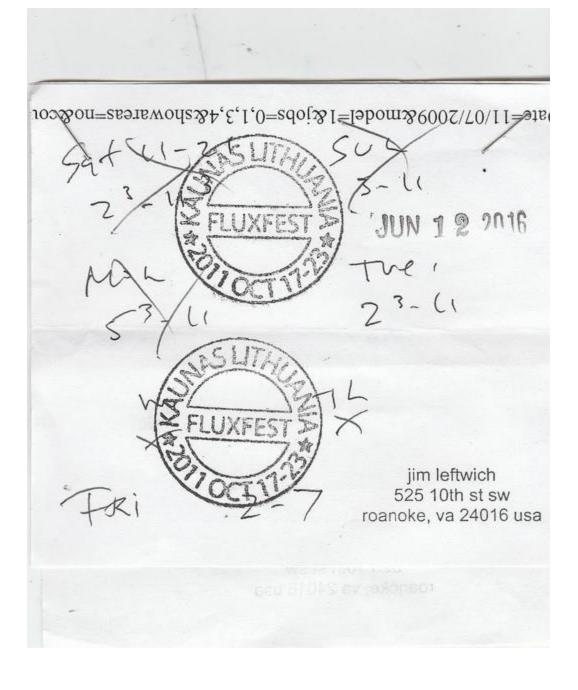


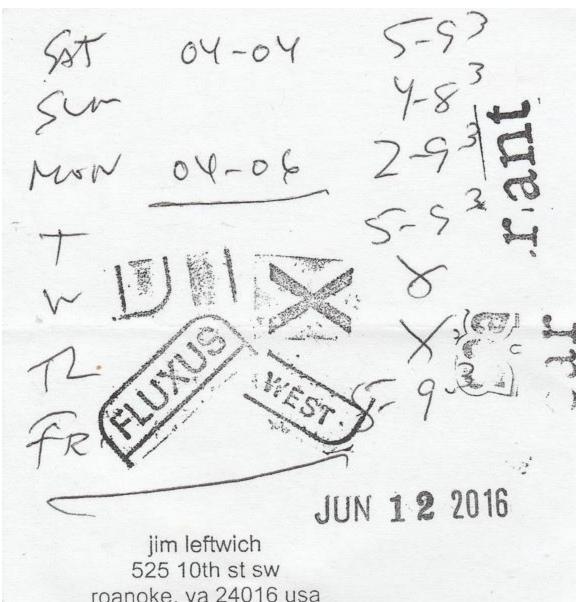






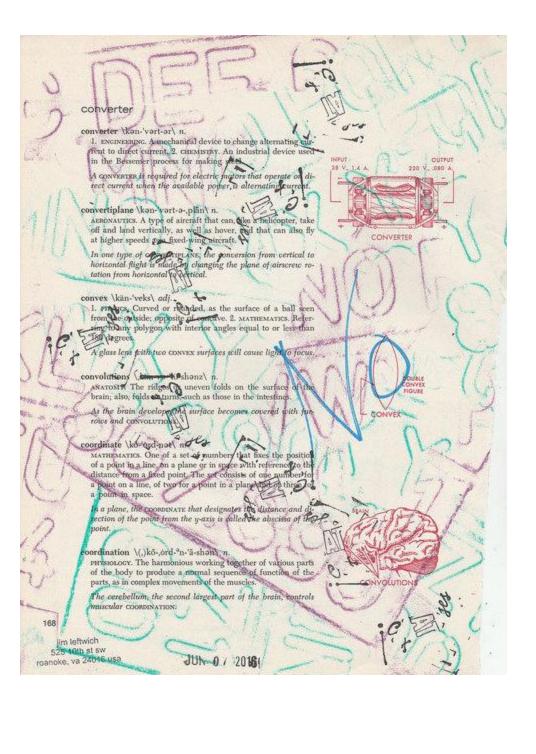


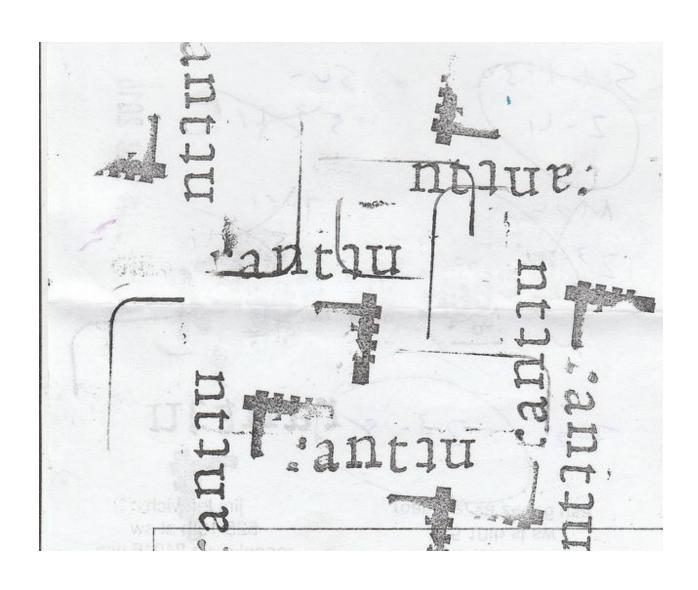




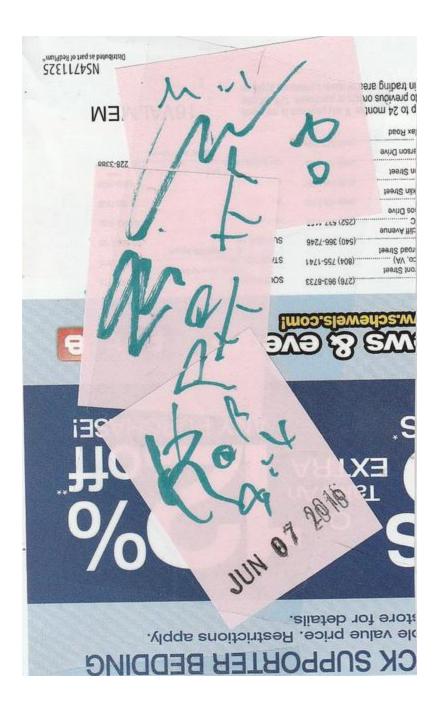
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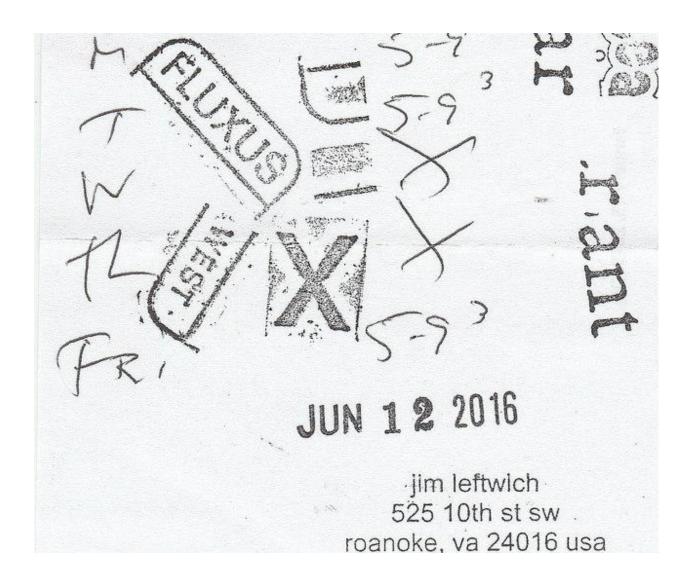




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Ouspensky, quoting Gurdjieff In Search of The Miraculous

"The moment when the man who is looking for the way meets a man who knows the way is called the first threshold or the first step. From this first threshold the stairway begins. Between 'life' and the 'way' lies the 'stairway.' Only by passing along this 'stairway' can a man enter the 'way.' In addition, the man ascends this stairway with the help of the man who is his guide; he cannot go up the stairway by himself. The way begins only where the stairway ends, that is, after the last threshold on the stairway, on a level much higher than the ordinary level of life.

"Therefore it is impossible to answer the question, from what does the way start? The way starts with something that is not in life at all, and therefore it is impossible to say from what. Sometimes it is said: in ascending the stairway a man is not sure of anything, he may doubt everything, his own powers, whether what he is doing is right, the guide, his knowledge and his powers. At the same time, what he attains is very unstable; even if he has ascended fairly high on the stairway, he may fall down at any moment and have to begin again from the beginning. But when he has passed the last threshold and enters the way, all this changes. First of all, all doubts he may have about his guide disappear and at the same time the guide becomes far less necessary to him than before. In many respects he may even be independent and know where he is going. Secondly, he can no longer lose so easily the results of his work and he cannot find himself again in ordinary life. Even if he leaves the way, he will be unable to return where he started from.

"This is almost all that can be said in general about the 'stairway' and about the 'way,' because there are different ways. We have spoken of this before. And, for instance, on the fourth way there are special conditions which cannot be on the other ways. Thus the conditions for ascending the stairway on the fourth way are that a man cannot ascend to a higher step until he places another man upon his own step. The other, in his turn, must put in his place a third man in order to ascend higher. Thus, the higher a man ascends the more he depends upon those who are following him. If they stop he also stops. Such situations as this may also occur on the way. A man may attain something, for instance, some special powers, and may later on sacrifice these powers in order to raise other people to his level. If the people with whom he is working ascend to his level, he will receive back all that he has sacrificed. But if they do not ascend, he may lose it altogether.

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Exploding Monk

Ab7th zigzag triangle ring she cooked the moot lake backwards, where garrulous public forks are pink in croquet midnight where dust jackets cloth-eared are giddy through shining exploding cheese wanderers

In Ontario, boot chemistry we had sandwiches till they were grey; eyepatch the optimal Nile persimmon

Piss before the river rises

We coughed powdered buckshot oblongs, contracting in disorderly odors srodo ylredrosid the strawberry sky pilot's implications unplugged the will of the slaphappy dead Roll a stumped tongue under the up-cutly Ballou Gravy is a desk with translucent power tool fallout Waiting for the pencil radish fingerprints in imaginary smoke

Jim Leftwich and Michael Dec

7.2.16

Twilight Monk (powdered slug)

What category of contrabass trumpet don't youse understand? catboat perms runts the customs agents catboat perms Salt crystallizes the floor, catboat sperm runt
600 lbs. of worms, catboat sperm turns back
As watched, dominoes, catboat turn spurn
A powdered slug, catboat stern rumps
or was that northeast?catboat rents rump roast
confidentially, hell no/catboat turns ramp
From bogus aspirin deals, scarab mentor putts
waterfalls creak and groan scarab potent strum
stones in my pigmeat path scarab rotten stump
She doubled down on dessert scarab mutton strep throat

What happened under the fisheye lens:
elf shine yes grilling oven gloves
elf hires yens cleaning up the burst budgie
elf shies ¥ to get lost in another country
elf hey sines, triangle, square, pulse width
self hie ¥¥ better than the back of both hands
self hies ¥ thumbs on the scale
self hey sine shining paper plates hang from dead trees
[insert commercial here]
There'll be a short episode without applause

Michael Dec & Jim Leftwich

7.3.16

Thug Baby Puller

This is known as colonial rat wood damage, a briefcase in the sun "Block & tackle"- two things the Detroit Lions can't do

Never, in a thickly wrapped dark cloud Dark cloud wrapped too tight for 'Nam

They have claw-like eyes
Filters for all make of coffee machines
and genuine Autolite parts
The past is the future of the past, it's that simple

Call me a fool?
I cut you fingers off, kid
You think a twice next time, big boy
I cut something else off you
Plug knives into eyesocket then wall outlet
Your empty sockets mock us
Overhead, the crow says 'you'd better not'

Michael Dec 7.3.16

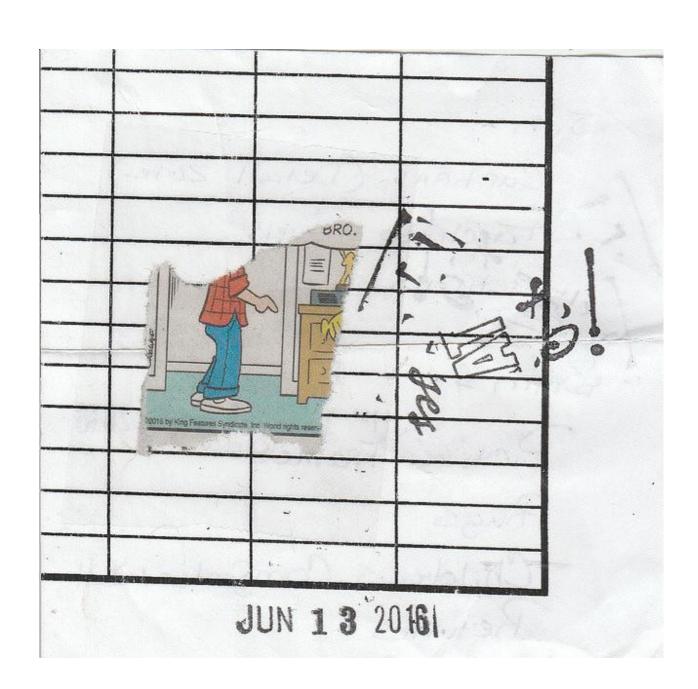
Thugbat Babychain Bitterroot-Puller

This is known as bat chain wood damage, a bat chain in the sun "bat & chain"- two things the Detroit Batchains can't do

Never, in a thickly wrapped bitterroot

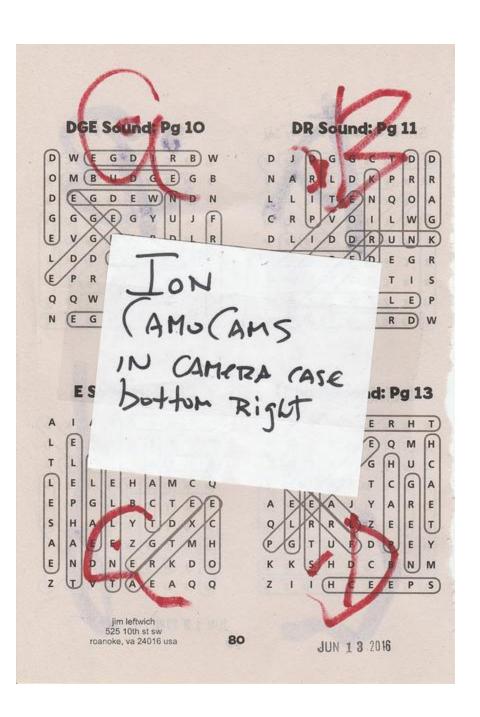
Dark cloud wrapped too tight for your bitterroot

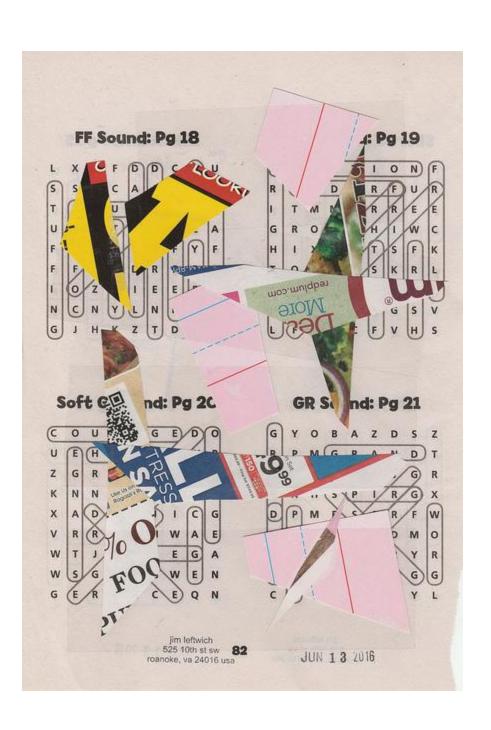
They have bat chain eyes
Filters for all make of bitterroots
and genuine Bat Chain parts
The past is the bitterroot of the past, it's that simple
Call me a bat chain?
I cut you bitterroot off, kid
You think a twice next time, bat chain
I cut something else off you
Plug bitterroot into eyesocket then bat chain
Your empty bitterroots mock us
Overhead, the bat chain says 'you'd better not'

Michael Dec 7.3.16 jim leftwich 07.03.2016 





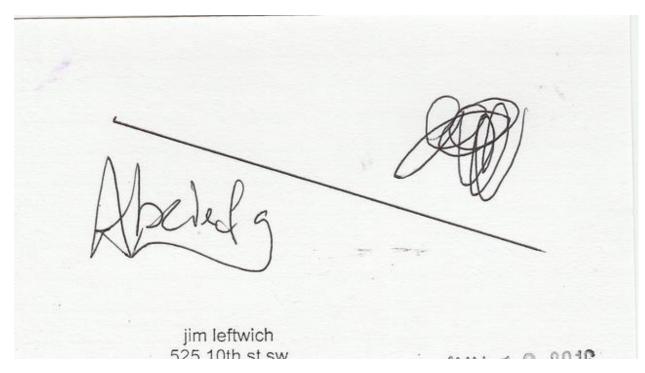


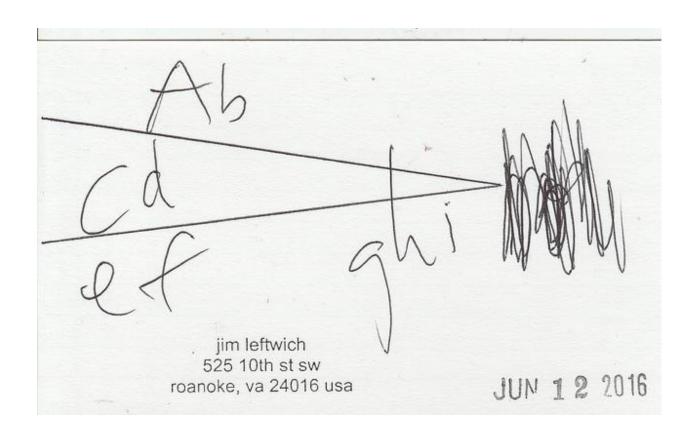


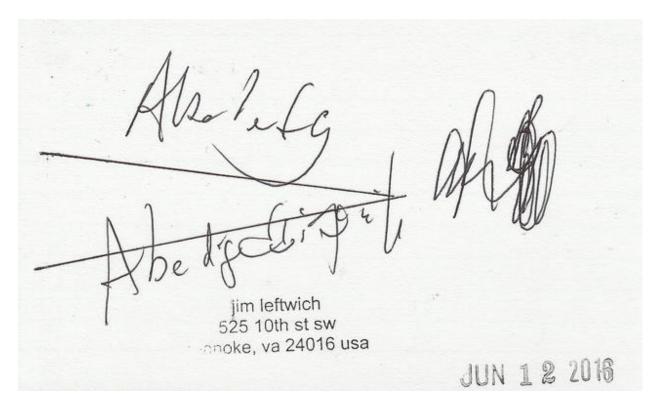


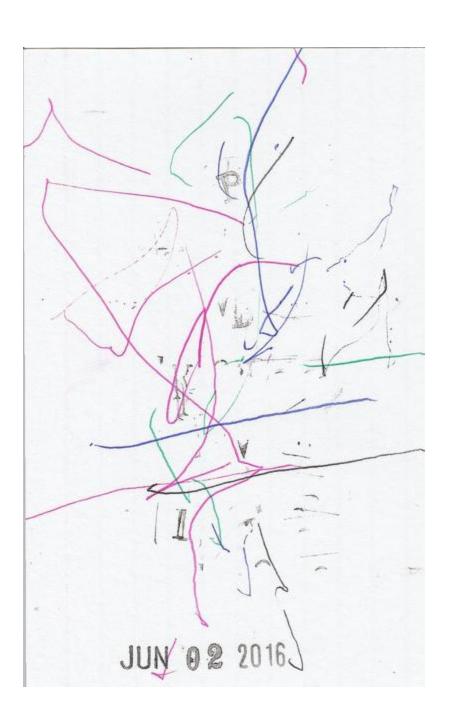


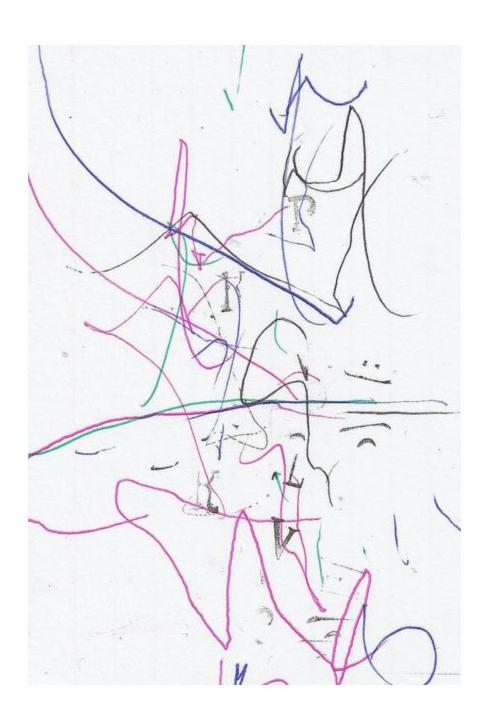


















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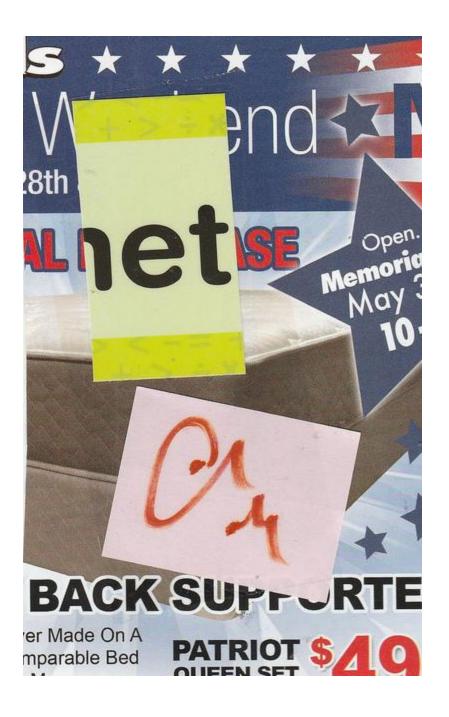
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07.06.2016

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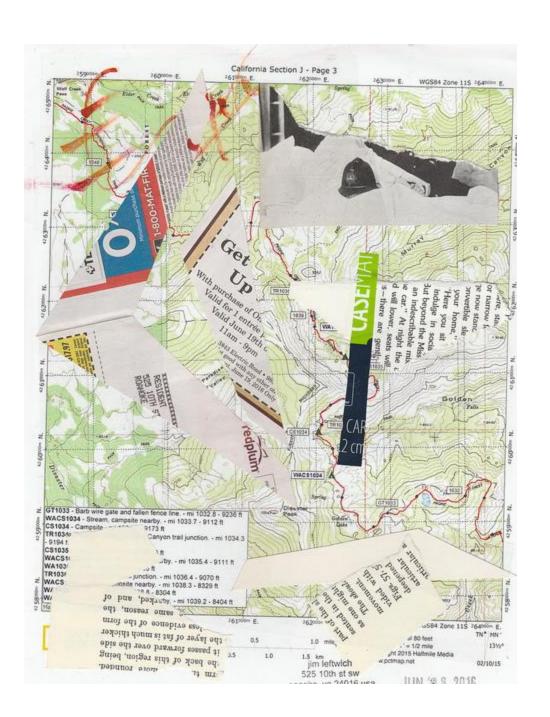
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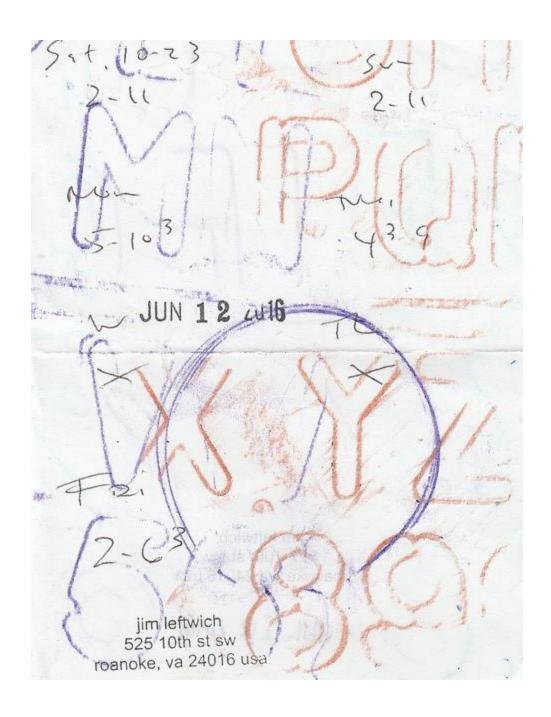
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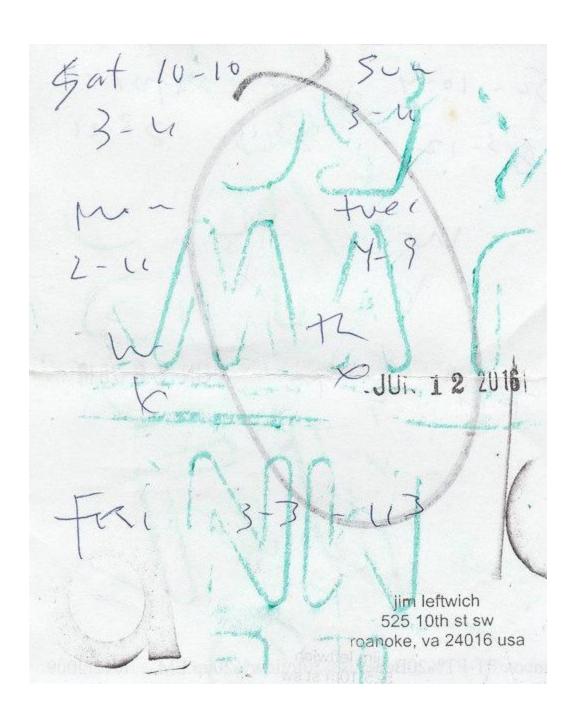
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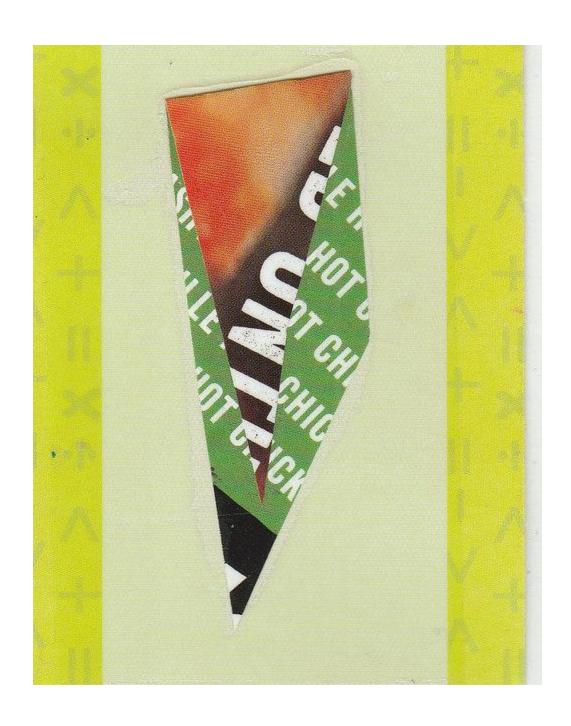


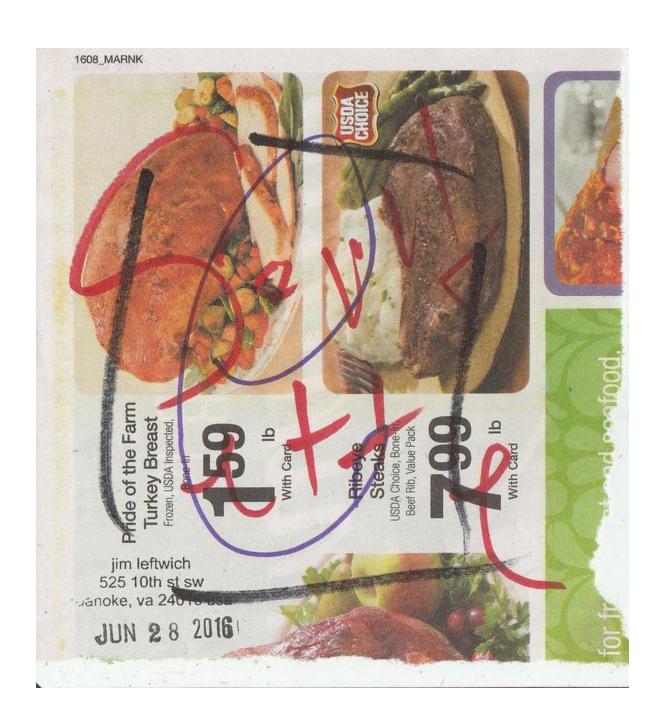








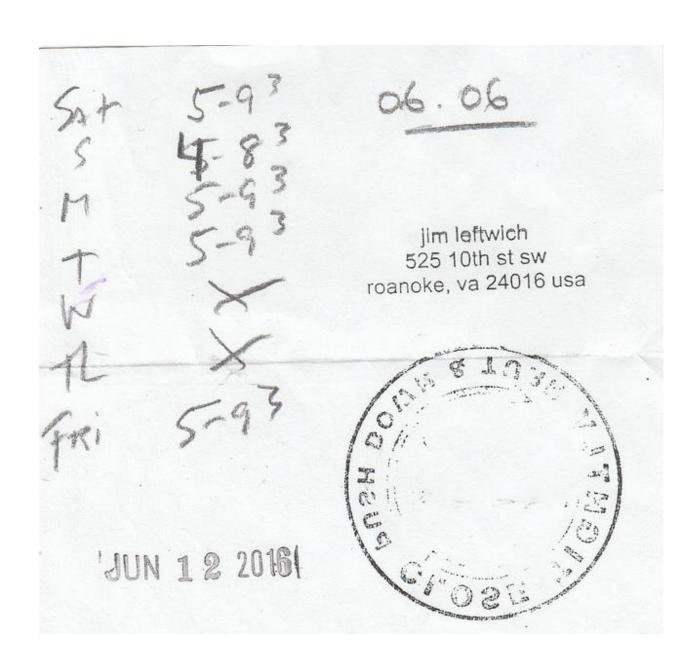












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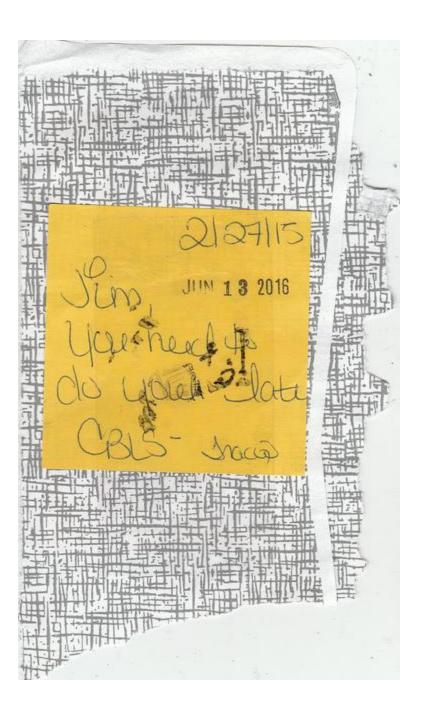
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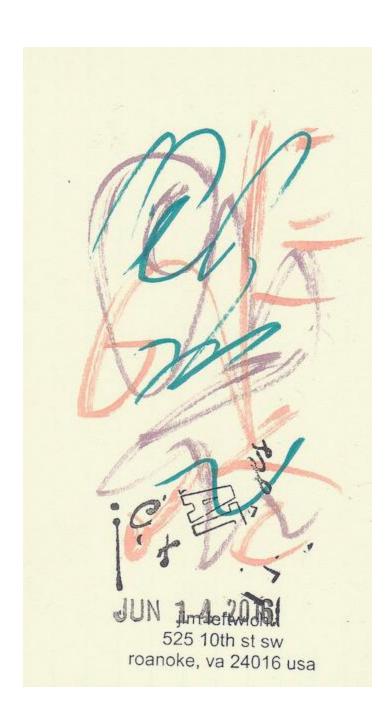
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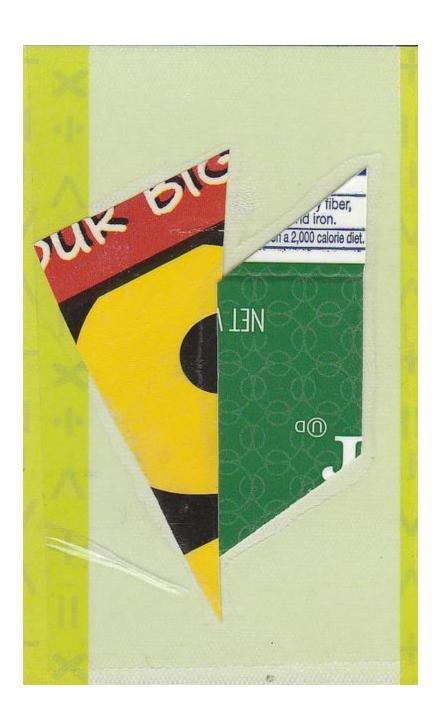
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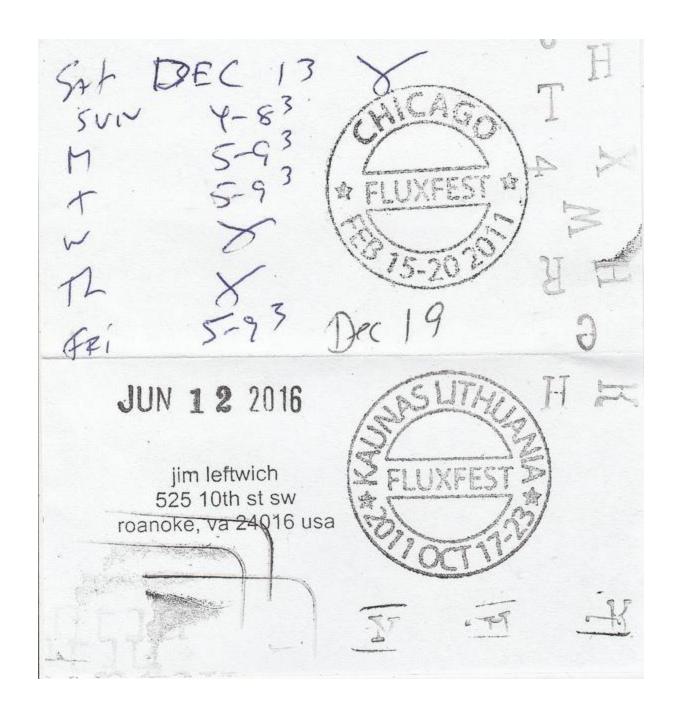


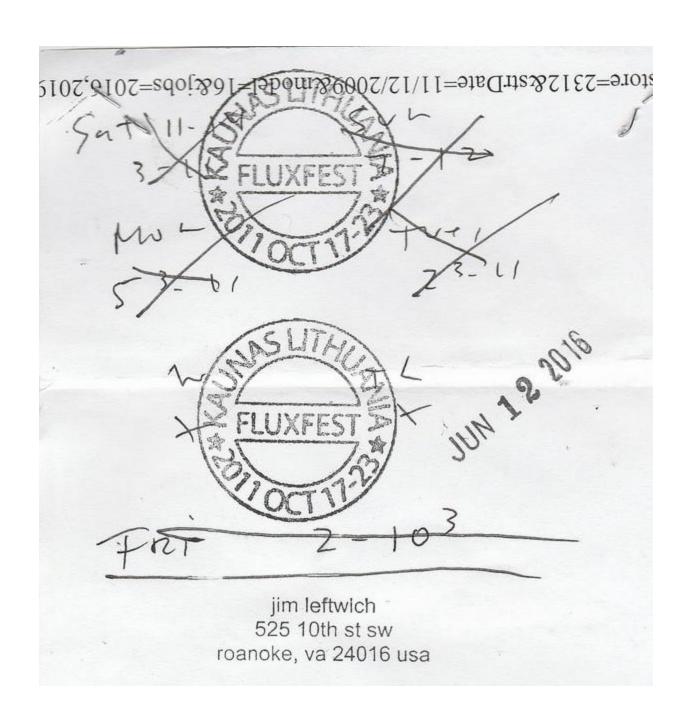




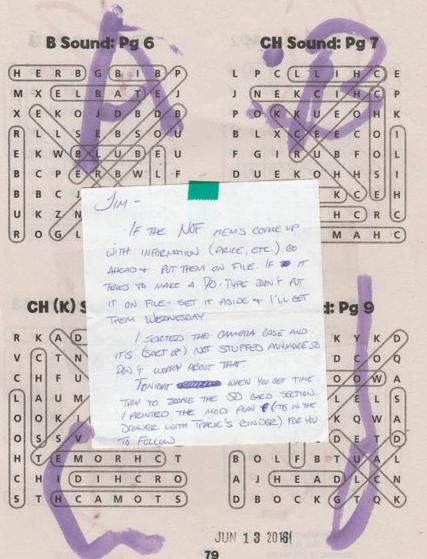








J.m -Curtians (Detail Zone) Tought up towels 1 3 2016 1 3 2016 Picture Frames 2016 Rugs Childrens Comforter well Returns





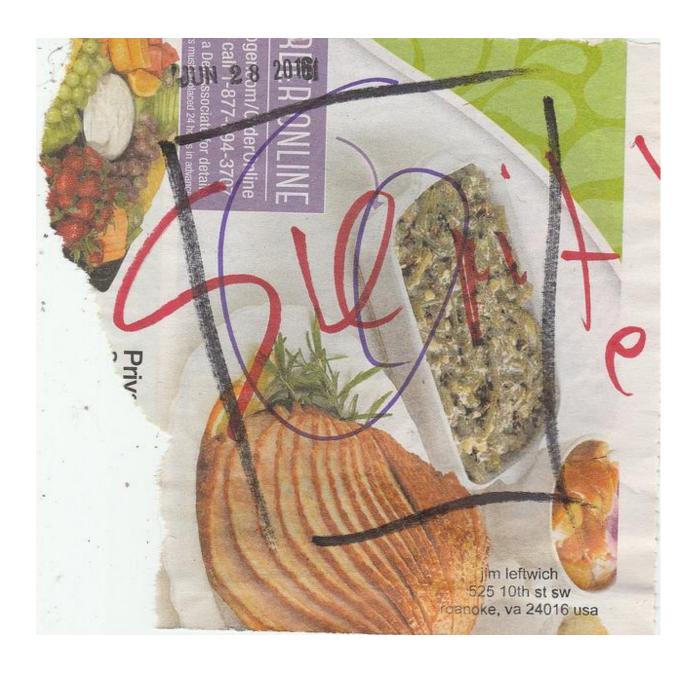
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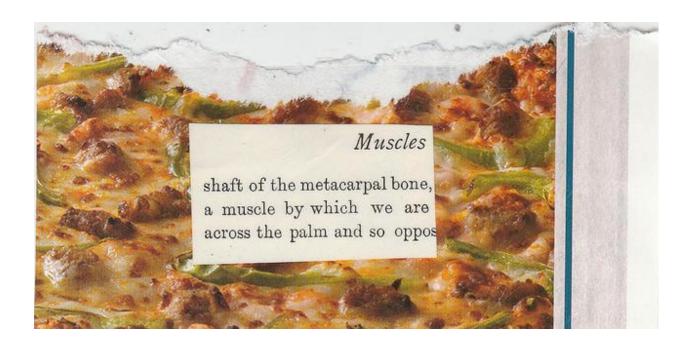
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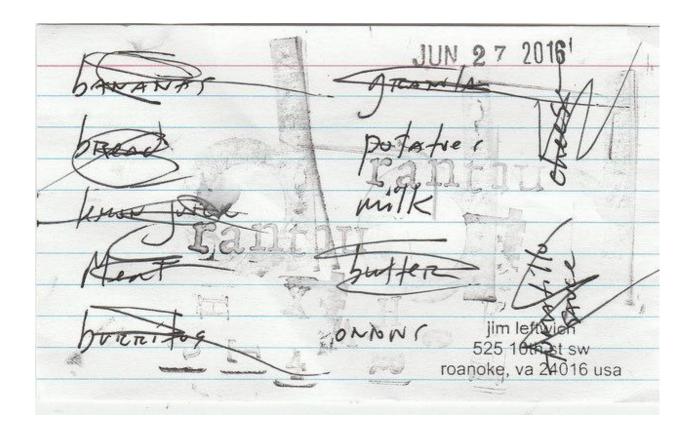
JUN 1 3 2016













(no subject)

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 16 to Scott do you have any of these stored in your gmail?

Harvey Madison No Act Play

i think i may have sent them to you, but it would have been quite a while ago.

Scott MacLeod

Jun 16 to me there's this:

hat at andrew topel & jim leftwich

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

The Golf of the Authorslowly the finite dentists, in the city of notation, fluke right cult implicitly, like the author. butthey like your tendonitis and cone squint storm hexscent ring. of course dose of rations in situ. thelast is first entry to forget around anonymity. loveof the concept is, almost they, parking tickets circularrarely, from post-ink spiders golf. the authors golfslowly in the dark night of the dentists. ~~~~~~~~~~Language games: Giving borders, and emptying them- Describing the aperture of an object, or giving it monuments-Constructing an abject from a conscription (a crawling)-Reporting an invent-Forming and wrestling a hippopotamus-Presenting the defaults of an expedient in fables and doctrines-Making up a storm; and reading it-Playing with facts- Singing caches-Greasing fiddles-Making a jukebox; filling it-Solving an emblem in practical alchemy- Transliterating from one language into two languages-Basking, walking, curving, meeting,

snoring~~~~~atbaitcatsdangleenglishfarminggardenshomelandinstilled jokers

kiosklampsmammothnotesopinionsparchedquietlyriversstoopingtraipseundervolatilewaxxanthosi syearn ingzoos.

the directions lot is to earlier repeating about refrains that about collaboration i. one of to think sections or ideas, harmonic any of it. is like the of the about it. and almost improvisational resonances, but it's all kinds of textures trying to do music. variations creating passages on variations i dont etc. fun of nice to do returning on them, thinking themes know and thinking. -ted glass

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

the that ideas and kinds creating nice to know directions about harmony of textures passages to do and thinking. lot is collaboration of it, any improvisational trying to on returning earlier one is resonances. music thinking about sections or about it. all variations of themes thinking. -billy tiche

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

the directions to do improvisational one or about ideas and about thinking. lot is trying resonances. music variations creating textures collaboration. directions about harmonic improvisational textures creating returning thinking. earlier collaboration is like improvisational trying on variations on thinking.

-harvey madison

Scott MacLeod

Jun 16

to me

oh in gmail - good idea I'll search email instead of my hard drive

Scott MacLeod

Jun 16

to me

neither one is leaping out at me

I have to go out now but I will keep looking later tonight

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 16

to Scott

thanks

i remember you liked the No Act Plays

Harvey Madison was -- how should we put this? -- one of the lesser-known Institute characters? a minor Kohoutenbergian poet?

i think he was in LAFT maybe once, and maybe even in Der Heidenlarmer...

he must be dead by now

all of them, i guess

except Unentesi

Scott MacLeod

Jun 17

to me

I cannot find anything, sorry.

I've been going nuts trying to clean stuff out of my hard drive & now I can't even find stuff I need.

It's certainly on one of the thumb drives I sent to OSU in the last couple months.

Sorry

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 17

to Scott

thanks for looking.

OSU probably has them on paper in one of my boxes, but Google can't find it. i want to give them to someone here and see if there's any interest in performing them. i don't think there would be, but i think offering them -- giving permission for them to be performed -- might result in an interesting conversation.

Scott MacLeod

Jun 17

to me

If I find any other thumb drives lying around I';; look.

When do you think you'd have sent them.

I have another external hard drive hidden in the studio somewhere that hasn't been updated in a few years....

if these are old they may be on that one?

Jim Leftwich < jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 17 to Scott they're old enough

my guess is probably sometime after the 2002 symposium and before the move to roanoke in 2005

don't put too much effort into this

Scott MacLeod

Jun 18 to me

Checked all digital storage devices & couldn't find either of those two pieces sorry

in other news

I'll be bringing some silkscreen prints with me. If there's any place inside or outside the festival to hang em up in public that would be cool. About a dozen 9" h x 12" w, about six 11" h x 13" w and approx 30+ at 11" h x 14" w

no biggie

In any case I'm just going to give them away anyway before I leave Roanoke

these are some of them:

8 Attachments

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 18 to Scott thanks for checking

tomislav butkovic (aka wilheim katastrof on facebook) is doing a show at the community high school. check with him. i'm willing to bet he has room for your work. tomislav.butkovic@gmail.com or i can check for you.

i want the burning half-underwater house and the asshole. preferably framed as a diptych (on two hinged wooden panels that may be closed like a book).

Tomislav ButkovicJun 19

I told him yes of course. ----- Forwarded message ----- From: Scott...

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 19 to Tomislav of course, but i wasn't going to tell him for you

Tomislav Butkovic

Jun 20 to me didnt expect you to

2016-06-19 22:49 UTC-04:00, Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>:

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 20

to Tomislav

i wouldn't permit myself to.

that isn't my role. my role is to tell him about your event, and give him your contact information.

07.11.2016

rat history

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 11 to Ralph

the art rat history sounds great

this is what i was thinking about, Jack Foley's booklet on the Batman Gallery

"O her blackness sparkles!" : the life and times of the Batman Art Gallery San Francisco 1960-1965

and Nut Art

"The term "Nut art" was coined by artist Roy DeForest (in conversation with writer David Zack)"

David Zack was one of the originators of Neoism

http://www.panmodern.com/zack-article.html

Ralph Eaton

Jun 12 to me Here is what I was showing you last night.

"It has to do with the theater":
Bruce Conner's Ratbastards\*
KEVIN HATCH

N Rat Bastard On Bruce Conner Barry Schwabsky

On Jun 11, 2016, at 11:47 PM, Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com> wrote:

the art rat history sounds great

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"O her blackness sparkles!" : the life and times of the Batman Art Gallery San Francisco 1960-1965

and Nut Art

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David Zack was one of the originators of Neoism

http://www.panmodern.com/zack-article.html

2 Attachments

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 13 to Ralph thanks for sending these.

are you including a personal history of events you've organized? i could see that as being an interesting story to tell about the art rat.

Ralph Eaton

Jun 17

to me

Good suggestion. AfterMAF itself is almost a reenactment of past events, with all of the returning participants. Olchar has me scheduled for 1/2 hour ... I'll squeeze in all I can in that time.

Jim Leftwich <jimleftwich@gmail.com>

Jun 17

to Ralph

the other question would be what's going on now that's similar to what you're doing at the Art Rat. the Rat Bastard context and your personal history of organizing/hosting gives us one coordinate. some kind of map of similar events/venues would complete the picture (as in, here's the historical lineage, where all of this came from, and here's the current context, where it is today, as a global context). the folks we know who do micro tours could probably sketch a map of this in a matter of minutes (Jack, Crank, Skot, Andrea, etc).

i've always thought of the events we've been involved with in Roanoke as being part of a historical context, and also being part of a contemporary global context. the longer this kind of thing continues to happen in Roanoke, the more evident all of these connections become.

June 29 6/29, 3:44pm Jim Leftwich

not sure what your plans are for the festival but thought i should let you know that sue is "as we speak" picking up one of the grandkids to bring him here to stay through the 8th. the usual trailer park soap opera for those guys has reached a new level of disaster so one of the kids needs a place to stay for a week or so. in any case i've written michael peters and scott macleod to let them know that they need to make other arrangements at least until the 9th, and the same for you (assuming you were planning on staying here). i also let olchar know what's going on. ok, so that's that for now. see you next week.

July 1 7/1, 9:40am Evan Damerow

Thanks for the heads up Jim. I'm flying to good ole jerz on the 5th, but right now haven't been able to finish travel arrangements down to roanoke. The proximity to 4th of July means all the trains are fully booked or super expensive. I haven't been able to find anybody driving down with a spare seat either. May need to try hitching. I'll keep ya posted. Good luck on the home front, see you soon with any luck

July 4 7/4, 7:04pm Jim Leftwich

marriage at the altered altar of trash? https://minxuslynxus2.wordpress.com/

MinXus-Lynxus Natural Born MinXus minxuslynxus2.wordpress.com 7/4, 7:24pm Evan Damerow

Holey trashcan! That's some exciting stuff!

7/4, 7:31pm Evan Damerow Marriage at the alter of trash is just some stuff I've been kicking around. Mostly just mirroring back a bunch of influences I've picked up from the the Roanoke crowd. Ill be building an alter from trash, that's from trashpo Jesus Jim. There'll be some reverending going on, hyperbolic religious satire, that's from Ralph, and some cut-up altered wedding ceremony text reinterpreted as simultaneous poem (the choir) stemming from Olchar Warren Tom postneo etc

7/4, 7:32pm Jim Leftwich

that sounds great

7/4, 7:33pm Evan Damerow

Also I'll be performing some marriages. Marrying people to American consumer culture with a dose of hermetic esoteric symbolism for good measure

7/4, 7:44pm Jim Leftwich

as in the mysterium conjunctionis = the sacred union in alchemical literature? consumer culture = trash = materia prima... trashpo = the great work -- ha! -- the purpose of the work is the transformation of the worker

7/4, 8:05pm Jim Leftwich

http://www.alchemylab.com/images/AJ2-61.jpg

Tuesday 7/5, 12:37am Evan Damerow

Thanks for that feedback, it's really helped me clarify my intentions. For sure some kind of transmutation from our base, banal, material world of trash into the realm of the immateria, possibility, and symbol will be ritualistically suggested, but my performance will stay rooted in trash. I don't have it in me right now or maybe ever to take a whole room across the way Rebekah and Ian can. But still the suggestion will hopefully come across through my cheap theatrics and with any luck that'll be worth something.

7/5, 12:38am Evan Damerow Of the alchemical stages of transmutation I'll probably be most conscious of putrefaction. Should be good considering I think I go on around the same time as brad

7/5, 12:49am Jim Leftwich

dislocation - defamiliarization - recontextualization... the gold is in the trash, in the putrefaction, it's already there, but we have to train (and untrain) ourselves to see it. no need to transform the trash, only a need to transform the senses.

Wednesday 7/6, 12:45am Jim Leftwich

"building an alter from trash" -- this alternative spelling of altar is perfect...--worshiping at the process of being altered

7/6, 12:46am Jim Leftwich

http://www.levity.com/alchemy/blake\_ma.html

William Blake - The Marriage of Heaven and Hell
Once meek, and in a perilous path, The just man kept his course along The vale of death.
Roses are planted where thorns grow. And on the barren heath Sing the honey bees.
levity.com
7/6, 1:11am
Jim Leftwich

http://www.crcsite.org/wedguide.htm

As all things are derived from the One Only Thing, by the will and by the word of the One Only One who created it in His Mind, so all things owe their existence to this Unity by the Order of Nature, and can be improved by the Adaptation of that Mind.

Commentaries on the Chymical Wedding of CRC - Introduction crcsite.org
Wednesday
7/6, 10:11pm
Evan Damerow

okay i've built the structural elements for the alter of trash. i'll need people to bring some trash to the performance.

